UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22063
11 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 10 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to attach herewith a message dated 10 January 1991 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Shaukat UMER
Acting Permanent Representative

READEX
FICHE

Annex

Text of the message from H.E. Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, addressed to the Secretary-General

The mounting crisis in the Gulf has brought the region close to catastrophe. It is evident that the situation in the Gulf is approaching the edge of a precipice, stepping beyond which can only lead to widespread devastation. It is in the shadow of this sombre reality that I address this letter to Your Excellency in the knowledge that you share with me the desire for a peaceful resolution of the crisis caused by the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

As Your Excellency is aware Pakistan has always opposed interference and intervention in the affairs of other States. We believe in the principle of non-use of force in international relations and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force. We believe that the maintenance of peaceful international order, in which small, weak and vulnerable States can continue to enjoy their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity depends entirely on a firm adherence to these basic principles of international law. It is this fundamental belief that has led us to support all Security Council resolutions adopted on the crisis in the Gulf since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. We believe that the full implementation of these resolutions, including the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Iraqi occupation forces from Kuwait and the restoration of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kuwait and its legitimate Government forms the basis for a peaceful settlement.

It is my firm belief that a war in the Gulf will bring in its wake a major political, economic and ecological disaster for the countries directly involved in the conflict as well as for the entire region and indeed for the world. It is therefore essential for Iraq to withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait in order that such a cataclysm is averted. The international community must intensify its efforts to seek a peaceful way out of the present impasse, on the basis of respect of international law and norms of inter-State behaviour.

I was considerably encouraged to learn of your visit to Baghdad to engage in a dialogue with the Iraqi leadership. I would like to convey to you the full support of the Government and the people of Pakistan for your mission of peace and sincerely hope that it will contribute towards achieving a peaceful settlement of the crisis in the Gulf. I would also like to assure you of Pakistan's readiness to assist Your Excellency in any appropriate manner, for safeguarding and preserving peace and security in the region.